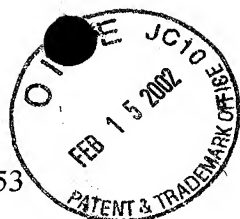


NS-US015153



PATENT

#3

S.I

04-23-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Saburo Tomikawa

Patent Art Unit: 2834

Serial No.: 10/050,136

Filed: January 18, 2002

For: HYBRID VEHICLE
CONTROL APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant brings the attached references to the Examiner's attention and requests that they be considered and made of record in this application. Also attached is a completed PTO-1449 form. *No fee is believed to be due for this Information Disclosure Statement.* However, if a first Office Action on the merits was mailed before the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 50-1836. A duplicate copy of this Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

* * *

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 8-300965 discloses a front wheel and rear wheel drive vehicle in which an engine rotates one set of wheels and an electric motor rotates the other set of wheels. In this system, there is no mechanical connection between the front and rear wheels. Rather, the drive torque that is transmitted to each set of drive wheels must be adjusted relative to each other in order to keep the total drive torque constant. An English abstract of this publication is provided to better understand this reference. Also, U.S. Patent No. 5,788,005 is the corresponding U.S. equivalents, and thus, serves as an English translation of this publication.

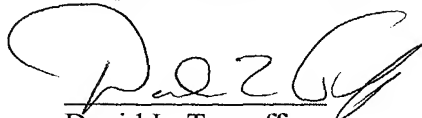
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FEB 20 2002
TC 2834 MAIL ROOM

Serial No.: 10/0 36
Filed: January 18, 2002
Page 2 of 2

* * *

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Tarnoff
Attorney of Record
Reg. No. 32,383

SHINJYU GLOBAL IP COUNSELORS, LLP
1233 Twentieth Street, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036
(202)-293-0444

Dated: 2/15/02

Feb02-NTNS-US015153 IDS

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

FEB 15 2002

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/050,136
Filing Date	January 18, 2002
First Named Inventor	Saburo Tomikawa
Group Art Unit	2834
Examiner Name	
Priority Docket Number	NS-US015153

Sheet	1	of	1
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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